

Predie, Jennifer

OIXES

From: Taylor, Steve (MNR) [steve.taylor@ontario.ca]
Sent: June 17, 2011 5:22 PM
To: Predie, Jennifer
Subject: OPG facilities below Bala

Hi Jennifer,

I believe the MWMP generally refers to the water control structures including waterpower facilities on the Muskoka River system as "run-of-the-river" operations. I suggest that both the OPG Ragged Rapids and Big Eddy hydroelectric facilities would be more along the lines of "intermediate" facilities as they both "cycle" at inflow(s) from upstream that are lower than their plant capacity of approximately 85 CMS.

Facilities that combine characteristics of "run-of-the-river" and "peaking" operations can be referred to as "intermediate" facilities. Water can be stored in the head pond and discharged during some peak periods of energy demand. "Intermediate" facilities are capable of storing some portions of the daily inflow during off-peak/non-generating hours, but not to the extent of full or true peaking operations.

The head ponds for the OPG Ragged Rapids and Big Eddy facilities are relatively small as compared to many waterpower facilities in the province that would be considered "peaking" plants;

In addition, Ragged Rapids GS and Big Eddy GS operations are required to maintain the respective head ponds within a fairly tight range of water levels. The legal operating range for the head pond of each facility is contained in the MRWMP. In addition, the MRWMP requires at least a specific minimum flow to be passed through the OPG Moon River Dam (which is associated with the Ragged Rapids GS and head pond known as the Bala Reach) for the walleye spawning and egg incubation period.

For your information, the legal operating plan for the two facilities can be found in Section 12.3.4 (Ragged Rapids) and Section 12.3.5 (Big Eddy) of the MRWMP. Here is a link to the MRWMP.

http://www.muskokawaterweb.ca/5/5.6/mrwmp_planning.htm

Feel free to give me a call to discuss any aspects of operations and requirements in the MRWMP.

Steve

From: Predie, Jennifer [mailto:Jennifer.Predie@dfo-mpo.gc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2011 10:51 AM
To: Taylor, Steve (MNR)
Subject:

Hi Steve.

Just wondering how the OPG hydro facilities downstream of Bala are currently operated. Are they run-of-the-river, or is there some cycling? Does the MRWMP contain requirements for their operations?

Thanks,
JEN

07/07/2011